

# DeKalb Animal Services Task Force



## Initial Report to DeKalb County Commissioners

# Purpose of Today's Presentation

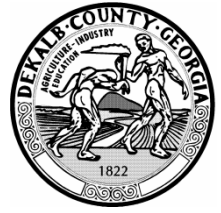


- Share Background on the Animal Services Task Force
- Provide an Update on the Status of our Work and Outreach
- Report initial Input at Public Meetings
- Hear back from you about the Needs and Concerns expressed by your Constituents
- Discuss Timeline and Next Steps

# By the Numbers 2009-2010



- 17,000 – Animals Taken in by DeKalb Animal Shelter
- 1,200 – Animals Adopted
- 2,200 – Animals Rescued by Not-for-Profit Organizations
- 10,000 Animals Euthanized
- \$350 Per Animal
- \$1,750,000 Spent on Animals Euthanized Annually
- \$210,000 Spent on Animals Adopted Out Annually



# Successful Models



- Travis County Austin, Texas
- Tompkins County (Ithaca), New York
- Richmond Virginia
- Vigo County (Terra Haute), Indiana
- Washoe County (Reno), Nevada
- Duval County (Jacksonville), Florida





# Areas of Strategic Focus



- Promote Good Behavior from Pet Owners;
- Evaluate the Current Structure of DeKalb Animal Services;
- Promote Collaboration among Local Agencies, Non-Profit organizations and Concerned Citizens;
- Strengthen Current Enforcement Tools and Practices;
- Enhance Facilities used to Institutionally House or Manage Animals in DeKalb County; and
- Develop Recommendations for Permanent Committee DeKalb Improves the Lives of Animals!

# Task Force Composition



## Breakdown of Task Force Membership

- 3 Animal Services and Enforcement
- 3 Prosecutors (DA and Solicitor General)
- 1 Police Department
- 1 DeKalb Municipal Association
- 6 DeKalb Departments
- 5 Not-for Profit Rescue Groups
- 3 Private Citizens



# Subcommittee Activities Con't



## Policy Subcommittee

- Code and Statute Review
- Current Fee Structure Evaluation
  - Reward Good Owner Behavior
  - Promote Adoption
- Mission Statement Update



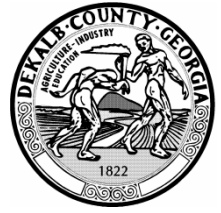
# Subcommittee Activities Con't



## Partnerships Subcommittee

- Internal/External Partnerships Review
- Develop Key Partnerships
  - Internal
  - Nonprofit
  - Inter-governmental
- Best Practices Development





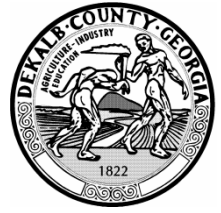
# Subcommittee Activities



## **Lifesaving Subcommittee** Identifying Model Programs for:

- Spay and Neuter
- Volunteers
- Rescue
- Adoption





# Ongoing Outreach Efforts

- Project Website and Online Survey

[www.dekalbcountyga.gov/astf](http://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/astf)

- Elected Official Survey
- Two (2) Public Meetings Held
- Two (2) More Public Meetings
- ASTF Activity Updates
- Email address:

[dila@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:dila@dekalbcountyga.gov)



# Public Meetings Held



May 10<sup>th</sup> Miller Grove High School

May 12<sup>th</sup> Dunwoody High School

## **Areas Emphasized by the Public**

- Need for Spay/Neuter Laws
- Promote Educational Programs focused on Children
- Concern for High Euthanasia Rate
- Better Regulation of Breeders/Outlaw Breeders in DeKalb
- Better Marketing of Adoptions and Programs
- New DASE Facility

# Timeline



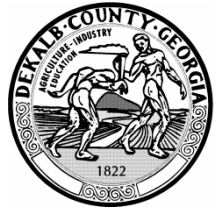
Month	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Public Meetings			1		2			
Outreach Activities								
Existing Conditions								
Preliminary Recommendations								
Final Recommendations								
Committee Work								
BOC Presentations			1				2	
ASTF Meetings	1			2		3		

# Next Steps and Deliverables



- Regular Status Updates
- Committee Research and Task Force Deliberations
- Final Report
  - ❖ Comparative Analysis of Existing Conditions
  - ❖ Review and Comparative Analysis of National Best Practices
  - ❖ Recommendation on Organizational Structure
  - ❖ Marketing Strategy
  - ❖ Comprehensive Plan
  - ❖ Recommendations on Permanent Committee
- Two More Public Meetings

# Questions, Comments, Suggestions



Visit: [www.dekalbcountyga.gov/astf](http://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/astf)

